

December 20, 1958

Dear Dr. Brinton:

Please let me acknowledge, with warm thanks, your letter of the 15th and accompanying material. I thought I should do this right away, as it may (or may not) be some time before I can give it my proper attention. I will be leaving Madison for Stanford in about 3 weeks, and you can imagine may be subject to some distraction. I am definitely interested in the work you have been doing, and would appreciate your sending the other mss. to my Stanford address (c/o Dept. Genetics) at your convenience.

As to the possibility of a laboratory opening, the situation is rather fluid, and I would be better able to formulate our plans after I have been out at Stanford a while. But it would not be fair of me to be too encouraging for the prospects as of 1959-60, mainly on account of problems of space. I have already made commitments to as many postdoctoral applicants as I can be sure of ~~accommodating~~ accomodating in my own space, but it is conceivable that other openings may arise on some collaborative basis with, say, Biophysics, Biochemistry or Medical Microbiology. I am afraid that microbiology is already so preponderant that our staff appointments in Genetics will have to be replaced in other fields for the time being. However, the stipends for NIH fellowships have just been increased so that you would qualify for at least \$5000 / 500 (dependent) or \$5,500, of which \$3600 would be deductible for tax purposes (for 3 years altogether) unless you have already availed yourself of the allowable deduction. Your net on a fellowship would therefore compare favorably with your present salary. If our pending application for a training grant is successful, we should be able to administer such stipends, on an equivalent scale, but locally so that the chief problem is space (and the total size of the group that can effectively work together).

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ In sum, all I can fairly say at the instant is that I will have your application very much in mind during our early planning at Stanford, and that I will let you know if any favorable opportunities develop. Meanwhile, I would have to encourage you to explore other possibilities at Stanford or elsewhere. I will write to you further about your paper as soon as I have had a chance to get to it.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg